FINAL BILL REPORT SHB 1008

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Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Changing provisions relating to membership on the Washington citizens' commission on salaries for elected officials.

Sponsors: House Committee on State Government & Tribal Affairs (originally sponsored by Representatives Appleton and Hunt).

House Committee on State Government & Tribal Affairs Senate Committee on Government Operations, Tribal Relations & Elections

Background:

The Washington Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials (Commission) is an appointed body responsible for biennially creating a proposed schedule of salaries for specified state officials. The elected officials subject to the salary proposals of the Commission include:

- members of the Legislature;
- elected officials of the executive branch of state government; and
- judges of the Supreme Court, courts of appeals, superior courts, and district courts.

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The Commission consists of 16 members appointed by the Governor pursuant to specified selection procedures involving the Secretary of State, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate. Nine members must be registered voters from each of the nine congressional districts in Washington. Seven members must be members of specified professions with experience in personnel management. Specified categories of individuals are ineligible for membership on the Commission, including:

- state officials;
- public employees;
- lobbyists; or
- immediate family members of a state official, public employee, or lobbyist.

"Immediate family" is defined by statute to mean the parents, spouse or domestic partner, siblings, children, or dependent relative of a state official, public employee, or lobbyist.

Summary:

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

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As it applies to public employees, the definition of "immediate family" is narrowed to include only the parent, spouse or domestic partner, sibling, child, or other dependent relative of the employee who is either living in the household of the employee or is financially dependent, in whole or in part, upon the earnings of the state employee.

Statutory provisions regarding the composition of the Commission are revised to allow the appointment of an additional member representing the forthcoming new congressional district.

Votes on Final Passage:

House 57 41

Senate 47 1 (Senate amended) House 54 42 (House concurred)

Effective: July 22, 2011

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